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Improvement in sanitary condition—Serum inoculation against plague.

The steady improvement in the health situation of the islands is very encouraging, and especially so in Manila.

The board of health has commenced to inoculate the Chinese population with Shiga serum, with the view of preventing the regular annual outbreak of plague, which has occurred here during the past three years. The work is progressing rapidly, little opposition being met with.

Cholera at Nagasaki.

The United States bills of health issued at Nagasaki for the two weeks ended November 27, 1903, report 33 cases of cholera and 18 deaths. Large quantities of green vegetables are being sent from that port to the Philippines, but since they are accompanied by a certificate from Sanitary Inspector Bowie, Public Health and Marine-Hospital Service, stating that they are safe, no objection has been made to their being landed.

Smallpox on vessel in harbor of Manila.

During the week one case of smallpox was found upon the steamer *Churruga*, which is at present lying in the harbor. The vessel having been in port for more than a month and consequently the disease contracted in Manila, the entire matter was referred to the board of health.

The work of the station has been much increased of late owing to the heavy immigration which has set in from Japan. The percentage of trachoma cases found is very high, averaging from 10 to 40 per cent.